

REMARKS

Applicant submits a Petition and Fee for Two-Months Extension of Time, along with a Request for Continued Examination.

Claims 23-31 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-22 are canceled. Claims 23-31 are added. Claim 23 is independent.

Support for new claims 23-31 is found in the specification at, for example, page 6, line 26, through page 7, line 3 and Figure 2C.

These amendments are made only to more particularly point out the invention for the Examiner and not for narrowing the scope of the claims or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Applicant also notes that, notwithstanding any claim amendments herein or later during prosecution, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements.

New independent claim 23 recites "a spring, disposed around the link member, which biases said display portion housing away from said operating portion housing in a direction parallel to said rotational axis, and said display portion housing or operating portion housing is pressed against said guide portion by a biasing force of said spring." (Emphasis added).

As described in the specification at, for example, page 6, line 26, through page 7, line 3, and Figure 2C, and according to the above claimed features, the display portion housing or operating portion housing can be smoothly rotated while the display portion housing is prevented from coming into contact with the operating portion housing, because the display portion housing or operating portion housing is pressed against the guide portion by a biasing force of the spring which biases the display portion housing away from the operating portion housing in a direction parallel to the rotational axis.

None of the applied references, including the Gray reference, teaches or suggests the claimed features.

Applicant notes that the July 6, 2006, Office Action alleges that the Gray reference teaches that a spring is provided to press the display portion housing and the operating portion housing outwardly. The Office Action refers to Figure 8 and col 8, lines 1 – 37, to support this allegation.

However, Applicant notes that the compression spring 82 of the Gray reference presses the connection hub 54 fixed to the chassis section 14 and the other chassis section 12

circumferentially so as to rotate the chassis section 12 relative to the chassis section 14.

This is in stark contrast to the claimed invention where the “spring, disposed around the link member, which biases said display portion housing away from said operating portion housing in a direction parallel to said rotational axis, and said display portion housing or operating portion housing is pressed against said guide portion by a biasing force of said spring.” (Emphasis added).

Clearly, none of the applied references teaches or suggests these features.

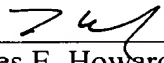
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 23-31, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney’s Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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